

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15
STR-04 CEA-01 AGRE-00 /089 W
-----030645Z 052275 /12

R 030600Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7514
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0006

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN AFIN ALOW EIND ECON ELTN EPAP LA

SUBJ: LAO MARKET CONDITIONS

REF: VIENTIANE 2926

1. EMBASSY MARKET SURVEY OF DECEMBER 29 REPORTED THE BLACK MARKET PRICE FOR A DOLLAR AS 1430 KIP. ACCORD-
ING TO LOCAL EMBASSY EMPLOYEE, HOWEVER, THE DOLLAR RATE JUMPED TO 1500 KIP BY JANUARY 2. A CHINESE MONEY CHANGER TOLD EMBOFF JANUARY 1 THAT HE FELT THE RECENT EXODUS OF PEOPLE FLEEING THE COUNTRY WITHIN THE PAST WEEK PUSHED THE BLACK MARKET DOLLAR PRICE UP TO THE PRESENT PEAK RATE.

2. A LAO TRUCK DRIVER TOLD EMBOFF DECEMBER 29 THAT HE DROVE IN A CARAVAN OF SOME THIRTY TO FORTY TRUCKS
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WHICH BROUGHT COFFEE TO VIENTIANE FROM PAKSE AND WOULD TRANSPORT GASOLINE BACK TO PAKSE IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY. NONETHELESS, THE PRICE OF LAO GROWN COFFEE IN THE VIENTIANE MARKET INCREASED FROM 900 KIP DECEMBER 15 TO 1400 KIP PER KILO DECEMBER 29. (COMMENT: THIS SUGGESTS THAT PAKSE COFFEE IS BEING EXPORTED RATHER THAN USED FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION. END COMMENT)

3. EMBASSY MARKET SURVEYS OF DECEMBER 15 AND DECEMBER 29 SHOWED THAT THE PRICE OF BEEF DROPPED FROM 2000 TO 1800 KIP PER KILO, BUFFALO FROM 1500 TO 1400 KIP PER KILO, AND CHICKEN AND DUCK FROM 1700 TO 1500 KIP. THE PRICE OF PORK MEAT ROSE FROM 1400 TO 1600 KIP PER KILO, AND PORK LARD FROM 1200 TO 1400 KIP PER KILO.

4. PRICES OF MOST VEGETABLES DROPPED DRAMATICALLY FROM SURVEY OF DECEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 29: CABBAGE FROM 450 TO 200, TOMATOES FROM 900 TO 500, POTATOES FROM 1500 TO 1100, GREEN BEANS FROM 200 TO 100, WHITE GREENS FROM 250 TO 100, ONIONS FROM 400 TO 300 AND CAULIFLOWER FROM 800 TO 500 KIP PER KILO.

5. THE PRICES OF ALL QUALITIES AND TYPES OF RICE REMAINED THE SAME FROM DECEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 29. THE PRICE OF EGGS ALSO REMAINED ABOUT THE SAME.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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SAS ID: 3670819
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Subject: LAO MARKET CONDITIONS
TAGS: EFIN, AFIN, ALOW, EIND, ECON, ELTN, EPAP, LA
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